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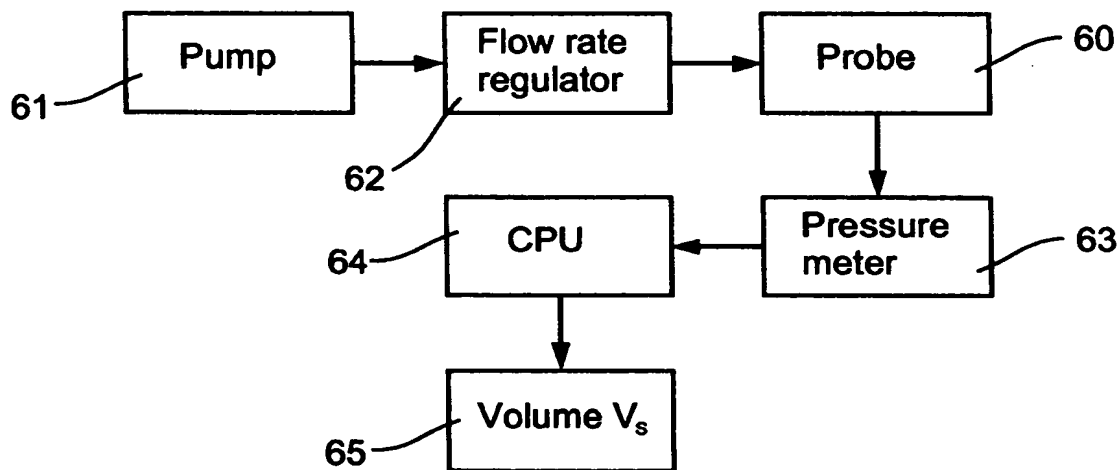
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(54) Title: DETECTING MEDICAL CONDITIONS WITH NONINVASIVE BODY PROBES



(57) Abstract: A method and apparatus for improving the diagnostic performance of a probe system (30) for detecting a medical condition in a patient by sensing volume changes in a monitored body part due to pulsatile arterial blood flow in the body part, characterized in calibrating the probe system (30) for the respective measurement site according to a predetermined characteristic of the monitored body part of the patient and quantifying the arterial pulsatile volume thereat. Such calibration is described with respect to probes including: (1) a pressure sensor (63), which senses pressure changes in a compressible fluid system to which the patient's body part (e.g., finger, toe or a distal portion of a limb) is subjected, which pressure changes are convertible to volume changes in the body part due to pulsatile arterial blood volume changes therein; and (2) an optical sensor (140), which senses optical density or transmissivity changes in the body part, which changes are also convertible to volume changes due to pulsatile arterial blood volume changes in the body part.

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